

TRIBUTE TO MRS. LAUNA BANKS
BREWINGTON

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 17, 2002

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to your attention the momentous occasion of the 90th birthday of Mrs. Launa Banks Brewington of Greenville North Carolina. Mrs. Brewington was born in Pitt County on August 31st, 1912 to Oscar & Lena Banks. The 5th of 12 children, her family included eight brothers and three sisters. Only two of her siblings are still living; Mrs. Lena R. Murrell-White and Mrs. Missouri (Lady) Wilkens. She married the late Jesse Brewington of Greenville North Carolina in 1930. They lived and she still resides in the home that her father built in 1925. Their marriage lasted until his death in 1993.

Although she and her husband did not have children of their own, they adopted her niece Bernice Banks Forbes and raised her as their own loving daughter. Mrs. Brewington is now the proud grandmother of four children and great-grandmother to eight children.

For 29 years, Mrs. Brewington worked in the Greenville City School system. After she retired, she still did not stop. She then joined the staff of East Carolina University becoming the first Black supervisor of the Custodial Department retiring after 10 years of service.

During the 90 years of her life, Mrs. Brewington has exemplified those attributes we all attempt to embrace. She is a caring, generous, dedicated, honest, and faithfully religious woman. She always received great joy in helping and caring for others. If anyone suffered with an illness, she was always there to help. The neighborhood children were also her children. She was always taking them in and caring for them. She has been a member of the Sycamore Hill Missionary Baptist Church since 1937. Her church activities included singing in the church choir for over 50 years and acting as Treasurer for the choir, serving as President of the Missionary Board, President of the Senior Ladies Auxiliary, serving on the Trustee Board, President of the Pastor's Aide organization, Chairman of the Kitchen Committee, and serving on the Pulpit Committee. In her community, she was the President of the Matrons Club which ministered to the bereaved in the community. In addition, she was a member of the Morning Light Tent Lodge, serving as leader and was also elected as Queen of the Royal Degree Circle.

Friends and family will gather in Hampton, Virginia to celebrate Mrs. Launa Banks Brewington's 90th milestone.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Mrs. Brewington's family and friends, and the city of Greenville in recognizing this momentous occasion of her 90th birthday.

HONORING THE FOX COMPANY, A
MARINE CORPS RESERVE UNIT
FROM UTAH

HON. CHRIS CANNON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 17, 2002

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, after the tragic events of September 11, Americans have

shown their patriotism and support for the War on Terror in various ways, such as voting, volunteering and serving in the armed forces. One such group of patriots is the men and women of the Fox Company, a Marine Corps Reserve unit from my home State of Utah. These Marines were recently called to active duty and sent to Camp Pendleton, California, assigned to Homeland Security. They have left their families, friends, homes and careers to defend and protect us, standing as bulwark for our freedom.

Today I wish to thank those men and women of the Fox Company for accepting that call of duty. These Marines have willingly put their lives on the line to defend the freedom that this country enjoys. Though they have not yet been deployed to fight the enemy overseas, these Marines play a vital role in securing our safety and liberty. Their service and determination to uphold and defend our rights must not go unnoticed. They should be recognized and appreciated by all Utahns and all Americans.

I would also like to recognize the families of these Marines. Their support, sacrifice and love are the driving force and inspiration behind the Fox Company. These Utah families are not only facing the absence of a father, husband, mother or wife, but also financial hardship due to the significantly decreased income from established careers so they may serve full time. This is no easy task, but one that these families willingly take on as their part in operation Enduring Freedom.

I commend the courage and patriotism of the Marine Reserve Fox Company. They are admirably performing an honorable job to defend and support the flag at a time when evil enemies are attempting to tear down the institutions that protect the freedom Americans have worked long to build. We should all be thankful for the sacrifice and work of the Fox Company.

HONORING HAROLD OSHRY

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 17, 2002

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Harold Oshry, a noted humanitarian, a civic-minded businessman and an exemplary leader. Born in Chelsea, Massachusetts in 1918, Mr. Oshry graduated Magna Cum Laude from Bowdoin College in 1940. Shortly thereafter, he proudly answered the call of his nation and served as a captain in the 32nd Special Services Unit of the Eighth Army Air Force during World War II, where he was awarded six battle stars for his courage in the Normandy Invasion and other crucial European Campaigns. After his discharge, he married Claire Herman and relocated to New York City where he began a successful business career.

In 1955, Mr. Oshry founded a transportation holding company, which later became known as Sandgate Corporation. This immensely successful venture afforded Mr. Oshry the opportunities and resources to make a significant impact on many people's lives. His most noted accomplishments were seen in his efforts to further cultural understanding through education. Mr. Oshry was an influential member of

the New York United Jewish Associations Federation where he demonstrated his commitment to the public's understanding of Jewish culture. In 1976, he established the Harry Oshry Scholarship Fund at Bowdoin College in honor of his father. Additionally, Mr. Oshry's generous contributions allowed Ben Gurion University in Israel to endow a chair in Aquatic Microbiology Federations. As a final tribute, Mr. Oshry was honored a week before his death by the Yeshiva Shaar Ephraim, a center for Jewish Studies in Monsey, NY, for his generosity and philanthropic pursuits.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed a truly special occasion for me to honor Harold Oshry, who worked to foster a better understanding among the world's citizens. His unparalleled dedication to this cause serves as an example for us all.

Mr. Oshry is survived by his wife Claire Oshry of Tamarac, FL, in addition to his daughters Suzanne Oshry of Pacific Palisades, CA, Meryl Evens of Point Reyes Station, CA, and son Michael Oshry of Hewlett Harbor, NY. Mr. Oshry also is survived by his sister Sally Adelson of Delray Beach, FL and brother George Oshry of Brookline, MA, along with seven grandchildren.

PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE ORDER
GRANTING CITIZENSHIP TO U.S.
SERVICEMEN ON ACTIVE DUTY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 17, 2002

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend President Bush on the executive order he signed on July 3, 2001. This executive order speeds up the citizenship proceedings for non-citizens who have been serving in the U.S. military since September 11, 2000.

Under current immigration law, non-citizens must serve in the U.S. military for three years before they are even eligible to apply for U.S. citizenship. This executive order is an important first step in acknowledging the dedication of the thousands of non-citizens currently serving in the Armed Forces. I say first step because we have been attempting to rectify this situation with permanent legislation for some time.

Although it has the bipartisan support of 42 House Members, H.R. 4575, the Citizenship for America's Troops Act, has languished in the Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims since April 24th of this year. H.R. 4575, sponsored by my good friend and colleague Representative MARTIN FROST, will rectify a variety of barriers faced by U.S. servicemen and women seeking to become naturalized citizens.

This legislation reduces the required amount of military service for qualification to apply for citizenship from three years to two years; allows the INS to conduct citizen interviews and oath ceremonies for military personnel overseas, and exempts non-citizen military personnel from paying fees for their naturalization.

Over 10,000 servicemen and women will benefit from this legislation. Currently there are 6,000 non-citizen enlisted personnel in the Army, 6,620 in the Marine Corps, 2,901 in the